

AMENDMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated November 7, 1997, please amend the claims in above-referenced patent application as follows:

Sub G1
E1
Claim 1 (Twice Amended). A recombinant retroviral vector[,] useful to nonselectively transfect target cells, comprising:

- (a) a 5' LTR derived from a retrovirus of interest;
- (b) a splice donor site located 3' to said 5' LTR;
- (c) a Psi packaging site located 3' to said splice donor site;
- (d) a consensus splice acceptor site located 3' to said Psi packaging site;
- (e) an insertion site for a gene of interest located 3' to said consensus splice acceptor site;
- (f) a 3' LTR derived from a retrovirus of interest located 3' to said insertion site; and [(g)]

wherein said vector does not contain a complete selectable marker gene, or a complete *gag*, *env*, or *pol* gene between said 5' and 3' LTR.

Sub G2
E2
Claim 10 (Twice Amended). A recombinant retroviral vector[,] useful to nonselectively transfect target cells, said vector comprising:

- (a) a 5' LTR derived from a retrovirus of interest;
- (b) a Psi packaging site located 3' to said 5' LTR;
- (c) a consensus splice acceptor site located 3' to said Psi packaging site;
- (d) an alpha globin transcriptional promoter located 3[;]' to said Psi packaging site; [(d)]
- (e) an insertion site for a gene of interest located 3' to said alpha globin transcriptional promoter; [(e)]
- (f) a 3' LTR derived from a retrovirus of interest located 3' to said insertion site; and [(f)]

Sub
G2
E2
cont

wherein said vector does not contain a complete selectable marker gene, or a complete *gag*, *env*, or *pol* gene between said 5' and 3' LTRs.

Sub
G3
E3

Claim 21 (Twice Amended). A recombinant retroviral vector useful to nonselectively transfect target cells, comprising, a 5' LTR derived from a murine leukemia virus, a consensus splice acceptor site and an insertion site for a gene of interest located between said 5' and 3' LTRs, wherein said vector does not contain a complete selectable marker gene, or a complete *gag*, *env*, or *pol* gene.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4, 6-31, and 35-41 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 10, 21 have been amended. None of the amendments introduces new subject matter as support may be found throughout the specification. More specifically, the inclusion of the consensus splice acceptor site in the vectors according to the invention is supported in the specification for example at pages 28 and 29. The nonselective transfection of target of cells using the vectors of the invention is supported in the specification for example at pages 4 and 5.

Each of the rejections set forth in the Office Action dated November 7, 1997 are addressed separately below.